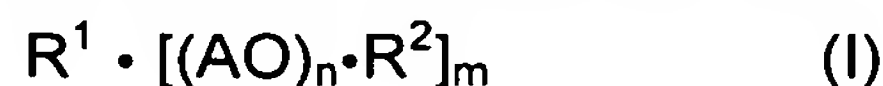


Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-22. (Cancelled).

23. (New) A mixture of compounds represented by formula (I):



where:

- R¹ independently represents the residue of a group having at least m active hydrogen atoms in hydroxyl groups;
- AO independently represents an alkylene oxide residue;
- n independently represents an integer from 2 to 50 and the total of all the integers represented by n for a compound is from 10 to 300;
- m independently represents an integer from 3 to 10; and
- R² independently represents a hydrogen atom, a C₁ to C₂₁ hydrocarbyl, or an acyl group;

wherein:

- i) R³ independently represents a C₁ to C₂₁ hydrocarbyl group;
- ii) on average at least 1.2 of the R² groups is or comprises a C₄ to C₂₁ hydrocarbyl group comprising at least two ethylenic double bonds; and

iii) the acyl group is represented by 

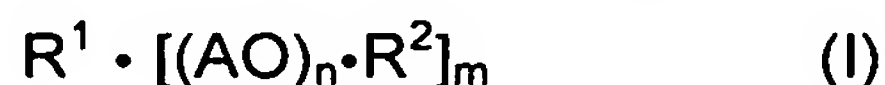
24. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, wherein R¹ independently represents the residue of a sugar.

25. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 24, wherein the sugar is a monosaccharide.

26. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, wherein R¹ independently represents the residue of sorbitol.

27. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, wherein m independently represents an integer from 4 to 10.
28. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, wherein R² independently represents an acyl group.
29. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, wherein the hydrocarbyl group comprising at least two ethylenic double bonds is derived from linoleic acid.
30. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, wherein the average number of double bonds present in the hydrocarbyl group comprising at least two double bonds is in the range from 2.0 to 2.4.
31. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, wherein the ratio of R² groups comprising hydrocarbyl groups comprising at least two ethylenic double bonds to hydrocarbyl groups not comprising at least two ethylenic double bonds is on average in the range from 0.7:1 to 6:1.
32. (New) The mixture of compounds of claim 23, having an iodine value in the range from 45 to 75.
33. (New) A method of forming the mixture of compounds of claim 23, comprising:
 reacting a fatty acid or derivative thereof having an iodine value in the range from 100 to 250 with an alkoxylated R¹ group.
34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the fatty acid is a mixture comprising at least 40 mole % of fatty acids comprising at least two ethylenic double bonds.

35. (New) An aqueous emulsion or dispersion of polymeric particles, comprising a mixture of surfactant compounds represented by formula (I):



where:

- R¹ independently represents the residue of a group having at least m active hydrogen atoms in hydroxyl groups;
- AO independently represents an alkylene oxide residue;
- n independently represents an integer from 2 to 50 and the total of all the integers represented by n for a compound is from 10 to 300;
- m independently represents an integer from 3 to 10; and
- R² independently represents a hydrogen atom, a C₁ to C₂₁ hydrocarbyl, or an acyl group;

wherein:

- i) R³ independently represents a C₁ to C₂₁ hydrocarbyl group;
- ii) on average at least 1.2 of the R² groups is or comprises a C₄ to C₂₁ hydrocarbyl group comprising at least two ethylenic double bonds; and



36. (New) The aqueous emulsion or dispersion of polymeric particles of claim 35, wherein the emulsion or dispersion is formed in the presence of a stabilising amount of a mixture of compounds represented by formula (I).

37. (New) The aqueous emulsion or dispersion of polymeric particles of claim 35, wherein the polymeric particles comprise an alkyd resin.

38. (New) The aqueous emulsion or dispersion of claim 37, wherein the alkyd resin is a resin which is the reaction product of:

- i) one or more polybasic organic acids or anhydrides; or
- ii) one or more polyhydric alcohols; and
 - a) one or more monobasic fatty acids; or
 - b) one or more triglycerides.

39. (New) An aqueous emulsion of an alkyd resin, comprising:

- i) an emulsifier, comprising a mixture of compounds represented by formula (I) of claim 23; and
- ii) an anionic surfactant, comprising an alkyl ether carboxylate, an alkyl aryl sulphonate, a phosphate ester, an alkyl ether sulfate, or a mixture of at least two such anionic surfactants;

wherein the weight ratio of the mixture of compounds to anionic surfactant is in the range 90:10 to 10:90.

40. (New) A method of making an aqueous emulsion of an alkyd resin, comprising:

- i) forming a mixture of the resin and surfactant, including a mixture of compounds represented by formula (I) of claim 23;
- ii) including water in the mixture to form a water-in-oil (resin) emulsion;
- iii) subsequently adding water to the water-in-oil (resin) emulsion at least until the emulsion inverts to form an oil(resin)-in-water emulsion; and optionally
- iv) adding further water to adjust the disperse phase content of the emulsion to that desired.

41. (New) A paint, comprising:

- (1) an aqueous or mixed aqueous organic continuous phase;
- (2) an alkyd resin emulsion discontinuous phase;
- (3) an emulsifier, comprising a mixture of compounds represented by formula (I) of claim 23; and
- (4) at least one pigment.